

1-39. (Cancelled)

40.(Previously Presented) A method of establishing a communications call, including:

selecting a B party using an interactive device connected to a public network;  
accessing called address data for said B party from a public directory of said public network in response to selecting said B party;  
sending said called address data for said B party and calling address data for an A party to a connection module of said public network; and  
establishing a call between said A and B parties over said public network using said connection module and said called and calling address data.

41.(Original) A method of establishing a communications call, including:

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selecting a B party using an interactive device connected to a public network;  
searching for called address data for said B party using said interactive device and a search module of said public network and a database of said public network including called address data;  
sending said called address data for said B party and calling address data for an A party to a connection module of said public network; and  
establishing a call between said A and B parties over said public network using said connection module and said called and calling address data.

42.(Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein said interactive device is a computer and/or telephony device including a visual display.

43. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said interactive device is associated with said A party.

44. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein said interactive device is a communications terminal for said call.

45. (Previously Presented) A method of originating a communications call, including:

selecting a B party using an interactive device connected to a public network; and sending, in response to selection of said B party, selected party data corresponding to said B party to said public network;

whereby a connection module of said public network accesses called address data for said B party in a public directory on the basis of said selected party data to establish a call between an A party and said B party.

46. (Previously Presented) A method of originating a communications call, including:

selecting a B party using an interactive device connected to a public network; sending, in response to selection of said B party, selected party data corresponding to said B party to said public network;

obtaining said called address data from a public directory of said public network in response to a search for said B party using said selected party data; and

sending said called address data for said B party to a connection module of said public network for establishing a call between an A party and said B party.

47. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~1, 2, 6~~ 45 or ~~46~~ 7, wherein said public network includes a messaging network for connecting a plurality of said interactive device and at least one public telecommunications network for connecting said A and B parties.

48. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~8~~ 47, wherein said messaging network provides said interactive device with a plurality of B party data.

49. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~8~~ 47, wherein said messaging network accesses and forwards said called address data to said telecommunications network.

50. (Previously Presented) An interface of an interactive device for originating a communications call, including:

a display controller for causing display of at least one B party;  
a selector for enabling a B party to be selected on said display; and  
a link which on being activated sends selected party data corresponding to said B party to a public network, whereby said public network accesses called address data of said B party in a

public directory on the basis of said selected party data and forwards said called address data to connection module of said public network to establish a call with said B party.

51. (Previously Presented) An interface of an interactive device for originating a communications call, including:

a search generator for generating a search for a B party using a public directory of said public network;

a data receiver for receiving results of said search;

a display controller for causing display of said results including at least one B party;

a selector for enabling a B party to be selected on said display; and

a link which on being activated sends selected party data corresponding to said B party to a public network, whereby said public network instructs a connection module of said public network to establish a call with said B party.

52. (Currently Amended) An interface as claimed in claim ~~12~~ 51, wherein said results includes called address data for said B party data, and said selected party data includes ~~said~~ called address data.

53. (Currently Amended) An interface as claimed in claim ~~11, 12~~ 50 or 51 ~~13~~, wherein said interface is sent to said interactive device by said public network on request from said interactive device.

54. (Currently Amended) An interface as claimed in claim ~~14~~ 51, wherein said public network includes a messaging network, for connecting a plurality of said interactive device, and at least one public telecommunications network for establishing said call.

55. (Currently Amended) An interface as claimed in claim 50 ~~45~~, wherein said interface includes a hypertext page and/or an applet for establishing said link.

56. (Previously Presented) An interface stored on an interactive device connected to a public network, including:

code for generating a display on an interactive device of B party data;

code allowing selection of a B party from said B party data; and  
code for transmitting to said public network selected party data corresponding to the selected B party and A party data;  
whereby said public network accesses called address data for said B party in a public directory on the basis of said selected party data and establishes a call between an A party and a B party using said A party data and said called address data.

57. (Previously Presented) An interface stored on an interactive device connected to a public network, including:

code for obtaining B party data from said public network;  
code for generating a display on said device of B party data;  
code allowing selection of a B party from said B party data; and  
code for transmitting to said public network selected party data corresponding to the selected B party and A party data;  
whereby said public network accesses called address data for said B party in a public directory on the basis of said selected party data and establishes a call between an A party and a B party using said A party data and said called address data.

58. (Currently Amended) An interface as claimed in claim ~~18~~ 56, wherein said B party data includes called address data and said selected party data includes called address data for the selected B party.

59. (Currently Amended) An interface as claimed in claim ~~17~~ 56 or ~~57~~ 18, wherein said public network includes a TCP/IP messaging network and at least one public switched telephone network for establishing said call.

60. (Previously Presented) A system for use in establishing a communications call, including:  
a public directory including called address data for parties connected to at least one public network;  
an access module for transmitting said called address data for display on an interactive device, and for receiving selected party data from said interactive device; and  
a controller for receiving said selected party data, including called address data for the

selected party, and calling address data corresponding to an A party and generating, in response thereto, network control signals to cause said at least one public network to establish a call between said A party and said B party over said network.

61. (Previously Presented) A system for use in establishing a communications call, including:  
a public directory database including called address data for parties connected to at least one public network;

an access module for receiving on said at least one public network selected party data corresponding to a B party and accessing called address data on the basis of said selected party data from said directory database; and

a network controller for receiving said called address data and calling address data corresponding to an A party and generating, in response thereto, network control signals to cause said at least one public network to establish a call between said A party and said B party over said network.

62. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 21 60 or 61 22, wherein said network includes at least one public telecommunications network, such as a PSTN, for receiving said control signals and establishing said call, and a messaging network, such as the Internet, for passing data between the A party, the access module and the network controller.

63. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 61 22, wherein the access module includes directory data from said directory database for display by said A party.

64. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 21 60 or 61 22, including a search module accessible by said A party over said network for searching said directory database.

65. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 21 60 or 61 22, wherein said call is established with a terminal of the A party which selects said selected B party.

66. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 21 60 or 61 22, wherein said call is established with a terminal of the A party which is separate from the terminal selecting said B party.

67. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 24 60 or 61 22, wherein the address data includes a party terminal number and security information.

68. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 60 28, wherein at least one of the calling address data and the called address data includes account information.

69. (Previously Presented) A directory server for use in establishing a communications call on at least one public network, including:

a directory database module for accessing public directory data, including communications address data, of parties connected to at least one public network;

a call connection module for transmission to an interactive device of a user and for accessing, for said interactive device, directory data using said directory database module;

a call completion module for receiving selected party data for a B party of said call from said interactive device and transmitting a connect message to a communication module of said public network for establishing said call, said connect message including communications address data for said B party obtained using said directory database module.

70. (Previously Presented) A server for use in establishing a communications call on a public network, including:

a call connection module for transmission to an interactive device of a user and for transmitting a connection message from said interactive device;

a call completion module for receiving said connection message and forwarding a connect message to a communication module of a public network for establishing a call between A and B parties;

wherein said connection message includes data from a public directory identifying at least said B party and said connect message includes communications address data for said A and B parties.

71. (Currently Amended) A server as claimed in claim 70 34, including a directory database module for accessing directory data, including communications address data, of parties connected to at least said public network, wherein the communications address data of said

connect message for at least said B party is obtained using said directory database module.

72. (Currently Amended) A server as claimed in claim 30 69 or 70 34, comprising a TCP/IP server connected to a TCP/IP network, such as the Internet, and wherein the public network is a telecommunications network, such as the PSTN.

73. (Previously Presented) A method of establishing a call between parties, including:

receiving a first message at a public directory service of a public network in response to selection of a displayed element on an interactive device connected to the public network, said first message including identification data;

generating a second message in response to said first message, said second message including communication addresses determined on the basis of said identification data; and

sending said second message to make calls to parties using said communication addresses to establish a call between the parties.

74. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 34 73, wherein the identification data is name data.

75. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 35 73, wherein the directory service is adapted to access a database of public communications addresses stored against respective identification data.

76. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 36 73, wherein selection of the displayed element invokes generation of code on the interactive device to generate and send the first message.

77. (Previously Presented) An interface of an interactive device connected to a public network, including:

a selectable displayed element which may be selected by a user of the device; and  
code for generating and sending a first message in response to selection of said displayed element, to a public directory service of the public network, said first message including identification data,

wherein said directory service determines public communications addresses on the basis of said identification data, and sends a second message to make calls to parties using said communication addresses to establish a call between the parties.

78. (Currently Amended) An interface as claimed in claim 38 77, wherein the identification data represents a name.

79. (Previously Presented) A method of establishing a call, including:

receiving a call request from a client device over an IP link that connects the client device to the Internet, said call request including data identifying parties for said call;

utilizing a public directory to obtain data identifying terminal of at least one of said parties,

generating a connection message, in response to said call request, including data identifying terminals for said parties; and

establishing a call between said terminals in response to said connection message.

80. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 79 40, wherein said terminals include two telephones.

81. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 79 40, wherein said terminals include a telephone and said client device having a voice over IP application.

82. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 79 40, wherein said terminals include said client device and a further client device both having a voice over IP application.

83. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 79 40, wherein said call is established over a public network, such as the PSTN.

84. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 79 40, wherein said receiving and generating steps are executed by a server, such as a web server.

85. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 79 45, wherein said connection

message is sent to network equipment that executes said establishing step.

86. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 79 40, wherein said call request is a HTTP request.

87. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 79 40, wherein said client device is a computer device, such as a computer, handheld device or telephony device with a visual display.

88. (Currently Amended) A network system having components for executing the steps of a method as claimed in claim 40, 41, 45, 46, or 73 1, 2, 6, 7, 34 or 40.

89. (Currently Amended) Computer software having code for executing the steps of a method as claimed in claim 40, 41, 45, 46, or 73 1, 2, 6, 7, 34 or 40.

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